Public Outreach and Consultation Status for Forest Management Projects Proposed February 2017

Pursuant to the process outlined in the Public Outreach and Consultation for Forest Cutting Plans policy, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) provided public notice regarding eight proposed forest management projects. Four public meetings were held in March 2017 to present information and address comments about the proposed projects. The meetings were held on at the Athol Town Hall (3/15), DCR's West Regional Headquarters in Pittsfield (3/16), the Trustees Doyle Center in Leominster and Borderland State Park in Sharon/Easton (3/21).

Meeting transcripts can be found <u>here</u>.

Open comment period was between February 16, 2017 and April 2, 2017. All comments DCR received can be found here.

Per the policy, the DCR's Bureau of Forest Fire Control and Forestry (<u>The Bureau</u>) reviewed the comments and prepared <u>written responses</u>. The Bureau responses addressed those comments that were pertinent and specific to the eight proposed forest management projects. Additionally, the Bureau addressed comments regarding forestry on state lands where the Bureau has forest management responsibilities. In some cases, similar comments were consolidated and provided appropriate responses.

The document which contains the categorized comments and responses to the project proposals can be viewed here.